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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/675,265      | 09/29/2003  | Kevin Brown          | SVL920030045US1     | 4880             |

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EXAMINER

TIMBLIN, ROBERT M

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2167

DATE MAILED: 08/23/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/675,265

Applicant(s)

BROWN ET AL.

Examiner

Robert M. Timblin

Art Unit

2167

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 September 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-39 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-39 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 29 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)             | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)    | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

### DETAILED ACTION

This office action is responsive to application 10/675,265 filed 9/29/2003.

Claims 1-39 have been examined and are pending prosecution.

#### *Information Disclosure Statement*

The information disclosure is objected to for the following informalities: examiner suggests citation numbers 2, 5, 6, and 7 on sheet 2 of the IDS be placed under U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS SECTION. Similarly, it is suggested citation number 3 on sheet 2 of the IDS to be placed under FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS section.

#### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by **Melton et al.** ('Melton' hereinafter) (US Patent 6,289,336).

With respect to claims 1, 14, and 27, **Melton** teaches A method for processing predicates in an iterator function, comprising: under control of an iterator function processor (sequence function compiler, abstract) when an iterator function included in a statement is invoked,

**'obtaining one or more predicates included in the statement'** as the predicate (i.e. search condition) (col. 13 line 47-59).

**'applying the one or more predicates to a row of data'** as a comparison between the current row's values (col. 13 line 47-59).

**'if applying the one or more predicates results in a match, returning the row of data'** as if "predicate" is true, return the value of INDEX (col. 14, line 15-20).

**'if applying the one or more predicates does not result in a match, searching for another row of data for which application of the one or more predicates results in a match'** else increment index (col. 14, line 15-20).

With respect to claims 2, 15, and 28, **Melton** teaches **obtaining a qualification descriptor that describes the one or more predicates and one or more functions** (col. 13 line 66-col. 14 line 25).

With respect to claims 3, 16, and 29, **Melton** teaches **'each function is used to process one of the predicates'** (col. 14 line 1-46).

With respect to claims 4, 17, and 30, **Melton** teaches **'a simple predicate'** (col. 14, line 20-25).

With respect to claims 5, 18, and 31, **Melton** teaches **'returning the row of data to the data store engine'** (cols. 13-14, table 7).

With respect to claims 6, 19, and 32, **Melton** teaches A method for processing predicates, comprising: under control of a data store engine (fig. 2),

**'receiving a statement including an iterator function and one or more predicates'** (col. 14 lines 1-25 and claim 7).

**'creating a qualification descriptor that describes the one or more predicates and one or more functions that are to be used to evaluate the one or more predicates'** (col. 13 line 66-col. 14 line 25).

**'invoking the iterator function one or more times, until receiving a done indicator from the iterator function'** (cols. 13-14, table 7).

With respect to claims 7, 20, and 33, **Melton** teaches **'the qualification descriptor provides a handle to each of the one or more functions'** (col. 14 line 1-25).

With respect to claims, 8, 21, and 30 **Melton** teaches **'receiving an indication from the iterator function indicating whether the one or more predicates were applied by the iterator function'** as testing predicate to be true (col. 14, lines 15-25).

With respect to claims 9, 22, and 35, **Melton** teaches **'when the iterator function is invoked, receiving a row of data from the iterator function that matches the qualification of the one or more predicates'** (col. 14, line 15-20).

With respect to claims 10, 23, and 36, **Melton** teaches **'applying one or more additional predicates to the received row of data'** (col. 14 line 1-46).

**'the one or more additional predicates refer to a column of data that is not in a result set generated by the iterator function'** (col. 14 line 20-40).

With respect to claims 11, 24, and 37, **Melton** teaches **'the one or more additional predicates performs a join between two tables'** (col. 4 line 49-67).

With respect to claims 12, 25, and 38, the limitations of these claims are rejected for the same reasons in view of **Melton** as those applying to claims 1 and 6 above

With respect to claim 13, 26, and 39, **Melton** teaches **'one or more simple predicates to be applied by the iterator function processor'** (col. 4, line 1-11).

### ***Conclusion***

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Cohen, Jeffery, "Genezzo," <http://search.cpan.org/~jcohen/Genezzo-0.63/lib/Genezzo/Row/RSTab.pm>. Genezzo Systems, Inc. 2003 (p 1-4).

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The subject matter disclosed therein is similar to the present invention (i.e. filtering rows and returning ones which pass under a predicate, page 2).

### **Contact Information**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert M. Timblin whose telephone number is 571-272-5627. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John R. Cottingham can be reached on 571-272-7079. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Leslie Wong



Robert M. Timblin



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Primary Examiner

Patent Examiner AU-2167

RMT

8/17/2006